

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

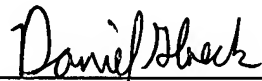
Claims 20 through 26 are pending, with Claims 20, 25, and 26 being independent.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during a telephone conversation on March 6, 2006. During the conversation, Applicants' representative indicated that whereas the outstanding restriction requirement refers to Claims 1 through 19, those claims are not pending and instead Claims 20 through 26 are pending. The Examiner indicated that Applicant should file a response pointing this out, and that a new Official Action would be issued. Accordingly, issuance of a new Official Action is earnestly solicited.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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